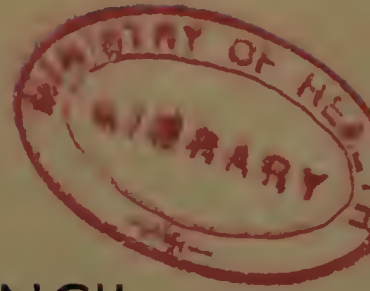


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COLNE VALLEY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health
for 1938.

R. T. E. NAISMITH, M.B., B.S.

J. W. ROBERTS & SON, LTD., PRINTERS, SLAITHWAITE.

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Colne Valley

Urban District Council.

Health Department,
Town Hall,
Linthwaite.

Gentlemen,

This year the report, which I have the pleasure in presenting to you, is more or less in the form in which it always will be presented. There are as you know, certain regulations which have to be adhered to and certain sections which have to be explained more fully at various intervals but this year the area is complete in itself for the whole period and therefore the figures are accurate and the statistics are such that they truly represent the area.

I have tried as far as possible to work according to wards and to use the new nomenclature rather than the old, but unfortunately in one or two instances the area is still worked under the old divisions and in these instances the old names are still in force but for the sake of uniformity I hope soon to have this altered.

The smooth running of this department has been to me a very satisfactory feature, and I must give credit to the staff who have setted down together so well and have worked so harmoniously even when extra work from outside sources was added. Then, of course, the week of crisis with all its attendant upheavals more or less disorganised public health work completely, but even that did not allow the department to get too far behind. I must say however that it was extremely fortunate that there were so few infectious cases to be attended to and

truly remarkable how few were the complaints which reached the office during that and the succeeding weeks. Both of these factors eased the situation as regards the extra work entailed by the way of returns especially for evacuation.

The two outstanding problems which I mentioned last year were bound under the circumstances to be hung up for a period but they have not been forgotten and will fructify in due time.

I am glad however that one big problem has been overcome in that one large area has been connected up to a water supply over which a supervision can be maintained, and I hope other areas will soon follow suit.

Another clearance scheme in the valley, but the first one for the new authority, has received the sanction of the Ministry, and one is now pleased to see more houses being built to deal with the displacements. Here again perhaps the holding up of house inspections for work of national importance has been a blessing in disguise as it has allowed the Council to catch up with the housing required. Whenever that is done and work of national importance allows a full resumption of local public health work there are many more houses already inspected, many in the course of inspection and others scheduled for inspection which will soon provide the nucleus for another and larger clearance scheme.

Finally I would like to bring to your notice that each year brings more duties to the staff of this department, apart from emergency work, the last of which I hope we have seen, and I am very pleased to be able to state that up to now we have been able to deal with it. To be able to do so necessitates extra work each year and also entails much study of the new work as it arises, and for

that purpose I think the Council should consider the attendance of their inspectors at certain conferences where the most advanced views on all subjects are debated.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R. T. E. NAISMITH.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

As this is an ordinary report, a resume of these is all I am including this year, suffice it to say that the allocation of duties to staff has worked in a very satisfactory manner and practically no overlapping has occurred. The officials are the same as last year namely:

Medical Officer of Health——

Dr. R. T. E. Naismith.

Sanitary Inspectors——

H. Morgan, M.S.I.A.

D. Sutcliffe, M.S.I.A., A.R.S.I.

G. L. Varley, M.S.I.A.

We still have a trainee and he has been a very useful asset to the staff as well as a conscientious worker.

The Laboratory Facilities, Ambulance Facilities, Nursing in the Home and the Treatment Centres and Clinics are all as last year, the only alteration in this section of the report being the reduction of the maternity nurses from four to three and a slight re-distribution of the districts which each now covers.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Here again whatever I say cannot alter the position and geographical features of the district which remain as I described last year, and thus I will proceed directly to the statistics for the year.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	16,052
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population mid 1938	...	...	...	...	...	22,730
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938)	...	...	...	...	...	7,567
Rateable value and the sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£115,676—£444	

Live Births.

	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	249	135	114
Illegitimate	9	4	5
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	11.39

Still Births.

	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	13	5	8
Illegitimate	1	1	—
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)	...	...	51.47

Deaths.

Total 287, Males 144, Females 143.

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	12.62
---	-----	-----	-----	-------

Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List):—

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still)
		Births
No. 29 Puerperal sepsis	Nil	Nil
No. 30 Other Puerperal causes	2	7.36
Total	2	7.36

Death Rate in Infants under one year of age.

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	65.88
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births				64.25
Illegitimate infants per 1,000				
illegitimate live births	...	...	...	111.1
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	45
Deaths from Measles (all ages)		...	...	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)		...	...	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)			...	Nil

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality,
Maternal Death-rates, and Case-rates for certain
Infectious Diseases in the year 1938.

England and Wales, London,
126 Great Towns and 148
Smaller Towns.

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

	England and Wales	126 County Boro's and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Popula- tions 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administrative County	Colne Valley
Rates per 1,000 Population.					
Births:—					
Live	15.1	15.0	15.4	13.4	11.39
Still	0.60	0.65	0.60	0.48	0.61
Deaths:—					
All Causes	11.6	11.7	11.0	11.4	12.62
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox	0.00	—	0.00	—	0.00
Measles	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.06	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.00
Diphtheria	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.00
Influenza	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.06	0.13

Notifications:—					
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00
Scarlet Fever	2.41	2.60	2.58	2.05	0.74
Diphtheria	1.58	1.85	1.53	1.90	0.17
Enteric Fever	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.00
Erysipelas	0.40	0.46	0.39	0.46	0.61
Pneumonia	1.10	1.28	0.98	0.98	1.54
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.					
Deaths under 1 year of age	53	57	51	57	66
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5.5	7.8	3.6	13.1	0.00
Maternal Mortality:—					
Puerperal Sepsis	0.89	Not Available	Available		0.00
Others	2.19				7.75
Total	3.08				7.75
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still).					
Maternal Mortality:—					
Puerperal Sepsis	0.86	Not Available	Available		0.00
Others	2.11				7.36
Total	2.97				7.36
Notifications:—					
Puerperal Fever	14.42	18.08	12.51	3.53	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia				15.46	Nil

Births.

During the year there were 258 births, 139 males and 119 females, and of these 4 males and 5 females were illegitimate. This gives a birth rate of 11.39 compared with 15.1 for England and Wales. As the rate for England and Wales is higher this year while that for the Valley is lower the figures are not good reading.

Still Births.

Fourteen are reported this year, 6 males, one of which is illegitimate, and 8 females. The rate per 1,000 population is 0.61 against 0.60 for England and Wales, whilst the rate per 1,000 total live and still births is 51.47, practically the same as last year.

Deaths.

The number this year is 287 divided practically evenly between the sexes, namely 144 males and 143 females, and the death rate is 12.62, but after correction by the Areal Comparability Factor, for comparison with the rate for England and Wales which is 11.6, we get a rate of 13.36. This is considerably less than for the two preceding years and it is hoped that it will soon approach more nearly to that of the country as a whole.

For comparison, I am again including several of the larger group causes as given in the Registrar-General's Short List, with the figures for the previous year in brackets.

Cause	Males	Females	Total
Diabetes	3 (4)	3 (4)	6 (8)
Cerebral Haemorrhage ...	14 (13)	9 (18)	23 (31)
Heart Disease	36 (38)	37 (55)	73 (93)
Other Circulatory Diseases	12 (9)	10 (11)	22 (20)
Bronchitis	1 (3)	1 (6)	2 (9)
Pneumonia	6 (3)	5 (5)	11 (8)

	Cause	Males	Females	Total
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)		— (1)	— (—)	— (1)
Measles		— (1)	— (1)	— (2)
Diphtheria		— (—)	— (1)	— (1)
Influenza		1 (2)	2 (3)	3 (5)
Cancer		19 (22)	26 (21)	45 (43)
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...		5 (10)	5 (7)	10 (17)
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis		— (1)	— (2)	— (3)

I think the most noticeable feature is the decrease of 20 in the deaths from heart disease, and this is chiefly accounted for by the 18 fewer female deaths. Cerebral haemorrhage deaths are 8 less and here again the female deaths are only half the number of last year.

Cancer caused 45 deaths—two more than last year—and is still the second highest cause of death although in fact, it is the largest single cause, as the heart disease group consists of many various types of disease.

There were only 10 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis and none from the non-pulmonary type so the deaths in this group this year are halved.

Despite the severe year and lack of sunshine there were only 2 deaths from bronchitis and 11 from pneumonia.

A very pleasing feature is that once more there were no deaths from zymotic diseases and none from diarrhoea in children under 2 years of age.

Deaths from heart disease and other circulatory diseases accounted for a third of the total deaths.

Infantile Mortality.

The total of 17, 10 males (1 illegitimate) and 7 females, is the same as last year, but unfortunately the rate per 1,000 live births is 66 against 53 for England and Wales. This is not as satisfactory a figure as one would like to see and is further removed from the figure for the county than for a considerable period.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Infectious Disease.

Never, as far as I can trace, has the number of infectious diseases notified been as low as the total of 93 and this is, I am sure, a very bright spot in the report. I am fully convinced, not only on account of the few cases of diphtheria in the district, but also from reports from other centres, that the immunisation of children is having beneficial results. The following table gives the totals and areas affected.

WARDS	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Anterior- Polio- myelitis	Tubercu- losis		Totals
						Pul.	Non-	
North	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	3
North-East	7	1	7	—	1	5	3	24
South-East	3	1	4	3	—	2	—	13
Central ...	2	—	7	2	—	3	1	15
West	5	2	15	9	—	4	3	38
Totals ...	17	4	35	14	1	14	8	93

The following table gives the diseases according to age groups.

Disease	under 1	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	20—	35—	45—	65 and over	Cases removed to hospital	Total Deaths
S. Fever	—	—	—	3	—	9	2	2	—	1	—	—	16	Nil.
Diph'eria	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	4	Nil.
Pn'monia	1	1	1	1	3	7	1	2	7	3	4	4	Nil.	11
Erysip.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	4	5	—	Nil.	—
Ant. Polio'itis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.	Nil.

Scarlet fever cases numbered 17 and of these 3 were children under school age although one was attending school, 11 were of school age, 9 of these in the 5 to 10 group and the other 2 in the 10 to 15 group, while 3 were over school age and one of these was an adult.

During the four quarters of the year the numbers notified were 5, 6, 6 and Nil while the distribution in the wards was 7 in the North East, 3 in the South East, 2 in the Central, and 5 in the West.

The sex distribution was 7 males and 10 females.

The school children were not numerous in any single school and the distribution was Marsden Council 2, Marsden National 1, Marsden Infants 2, Nields Infants 3, Golcar National 2, Linthwaite Central 1, and Spark Hill, Longwood, 1.

Only one case was treated at home, the other 16 going to hospital where the average number of days was 28, the longest stay was 36 days and the shortest 20 days.

Diphtheria.

Here again are welcome figures, only 4 cases being notified. Of these 1 was under school age, 1 was of school age, and 2 were adults, and it may be noted in passing that the child of school age was not attending a school in Colne Valley, but was from St. Joseph's College in Bradford. This is a record in that not one single child attending any school in the area contracted diphtheria during the year.

One case was notified during the first quarter and 3 during the third quarter, while the wards affected were North East and South East each with 1 case, and 2 cases in the West ward.

All the cases were females and all were treated in hospital, where the average stay was 41 days.

Pneumonia.

There were 35 cases of pneumonia, 18 of which were males and 17 females, and it is very interesting to note that every age group has at least one case. The numbers in the wards were North 2, North East 7, South East 4, Central 7, and West 15.

The first quarter was by far the worst with 17 cases while the second had 9, the third 5, and the fourth 4 cases. The deaths from this disease numbered 11, of which 6 were males and 5 females.

Erysipelas.

Again there are 14 cases, 5 males and 9 females. The three wards concerned are 3 in the South East, 2 in the Central, and 9 in the West, while the periods in which the cases occurred were 4 in the first quarter, 1 in the second, 5 in the third, and 4 in the last.

Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.

One case of this disease arose in a female child of 13 years of age and was in the North East Ward.

There were no cases of enteric fever and it is very highly satisfactory that no cases of puerperal fever or pyrexia were notified and that for the second year in succession.

Tuberculosis.

From the accompanying tables the number of new cases of tuberculosis of all types arranged according to age groups can be seen and also the number of deaths are similarly arranged.

The number of new cases is the lowest I can find and 1933, when 28 were recorded, was the only other year when the numbers were below 30. The number of pulmonary cases, 14, has never been fewer and only

equalled in 1933 while the lowest number of non pulmonary cases until this was 11 in 1928.

The deaths number 10, all being pulmonary cases and equally divided between the sexes. This is exactly half the number of deaths of last year.

Suspected cases are referred to the West Riding tuberculosis officer who arranges for X-ray examinations and admittance to sanatoria. After removal disinfection is carried out whenever an inspector is notified that such action is desired.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1938.

AGE	NORTH				NORTH-EAST				SOUTH-EAST				CENTRAL				WEST				TOTAL			
	Pul.	Non. P.	M. F.	M. F.	Pul.	Non. P.	M. F.	M. F.	Pul.	Non. P.	M. F.	M. F.	Pul.	Non. P.	M. F.	M. F.	Pul.	Non. P.	M. F.	M. F.	Pul.	Non. P.	M. F.	M. F.
Under 1																								
1—																								
2—																								
3—								1																1
4—																								
5—								1																1
10—																								
15—				1																				
20—																								
25—																								
35—																								
45—																								
65 and over																								
TOTAL				1	4	1	1	2	1	1			1	2		1	3	1	2	1	9	5	3	5

DEATHS

AGE	NORTH			NORTH-EAST			SOUTH-EAST			CENTRAL			WEST			TOTAL		
	Pul.	M. F.	Non. P.	Pul.	M. F.	Non. P.	Pul.	M. F.	Non. P.	Pul.	M. F.	Non. P.	Pul.	M. F.	Non. P.	Pul.	M. F.	Non. P.
Under 1	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
1—	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
2—	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
3—	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
4—	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
5—	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
10—	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	1	|	|
15—	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	2	|
20—	|	|	|	|	|	1	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	1	|	|	3	|
25—	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
35—	|	|	|	1	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	1	|	|
45—	|	|	|	1	|	|	1	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	2	|	|
65 and over	|	|	|	1	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	1	|	|
TOTAL	|	|	|	3	1	|	1	2	|	1	1	|	|	1	|	5	5	|

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The following tables show the positions under the various heads of supply at the ends of the years 1937 and 1938 respectively. Comparison will show the changes effected by the building of new houses, by the closing of unsatisfactory supplies, and by the laying on of the Huddersfield Corporation's supply to houses previously served by other methods.

End of 1937.

AREA	Houses	Public Supplies Laid on Services		Private Supplies laid on	Wells & Cist'ns to carry in
		Hd. Crp.	D'tm'th		
GOLCAR	2488	2083		200	205
LINTHWAITE..	1713	1047		310	356
MARSDEN	1625	671		674	280
SCAM'DEN	112			50	62
SLAITHW'TE ..	1558	386	969		203
TOTALS	7496	4187	969	1234	1106

End of 1938.

AREA	Houses	Public Supplies Laid on Services		Private Supplies laid on	Wells & Cist'ns to carry in
		Hd. Crp.	D'tm'th		
GOLCAR	2513	2131		200	182
LINTHWAITE...	1736	1148		270	318
MARSDEN	1638	687		674	277
SCAM'DEN	112			50	62
SLAITHW'TE ...	1568	399	971		198
TOTALS	7567	4365	971	1194	1037

Percentage of Supplies.

	1937	1938
Huddersfield Corporation	55.86	57.69
Earl Dartmouth	12.92	12.83
Private Supplies	16.46	15.78
Springs, Wells and Standpipes ...	14.76	13.70

Details of the private supplies have not varied from the particulars supplied in last year's report. Forty-six samples were taken for bacteriological examination during the year and results showed 19 to be satisfactory, and 27 not satisfactory. Twenty-five of the samples were taken from the Hollins Glen and Stockerhead supply, and only 1 proved satisfactory, thus accounting for 24 of the 27 found not satisfactory. The 3 remaining unsatisfactory samples were from Jacobs Well, Polegate, and the Woods Avenue supplies.

The position in regard to the Hollins Glen and Stockerhead supply was brought before a Court of Summary Jurisdiction and an Order for the closing of the supply was obtained. The 40 houses concerned have since been put on the Huddersfield Corporation's supply.

The Polegate supply has had works carried out which I think will effectively guard against pollution by surface water from agricultural land. This will be tested when the works have had time to thoroughly run clear.

The reserve at the Woods Avenue supply was cleaned out and a subsequent test proved satisfactory.

Twelve samples were submitted for chemical examination and all proved satisfactory.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The extensions to the sewers in the district were:—

- (1) Halifax Road, Golcar, 110 yards of 9in. sewer.
- (2) New Street, Slaithwaite, 90 yards of 6in. sewer.
- (3) Hill Top, Lingards, 60 yards of 6in. sewer.

None of the plants in the area are considered satisfactory and there still remain the same areas as last year where sewerage is required. The question of suitable sewerage of the whole valley is still under consideration and is in the hands of a firm of civil engineers.

Rivers and Streams.

These are under the jurisdiction of the West Riding Rivers Board and their inspector is frequently in consultation with officials of this department.

Closet Accommodation.

The numbers of the different types of sanitary conveniences serving the constituent areas of the district at the commencement of the year and the changes effected by conversions etc., are shown in the following tables:—

Area.	Privies.		Tub Clos'ts	Water Clos'ts	Waste Water Clos'ts
	Open Mids.	Cov. Mid s.			
GOLCAR.					
No. as at 31/12/37	32	368	190	1219	6
Deduct Conversions	5	56	9		1
Add W.C.s in lieu				71	
Add extra W.C.s prov. ...				19	
Add W.C.s for new houses				25	
Position 31/12/38	27	312	181	1334	5
LINTHWAITE.					
No. as at 31/12/37	25	195	8	1050	10
Deduct Conversions	3	17			
Add W.C.s in lieu				20	
Add extra W.C.s prov. ...				16	
Add W.C.s for new houses				23	
Position 31/12/38	22	178	8	1109	10
MARSDEN.					
No. as at 31/12/37	21	121	320	1050	7
Deduct Conversions		2	11		
Add W.C.s in lieu				13	
Add extra W.C.s prov. ...				6	
Add W.C.s for new houses				13	
Position 31/12/38	21	119	309	1082	7
SLAITHWAITE.					
No. as at 31/12/37		421	6	959	52
Deduct Conversions		8			3
Add W.C.s in lieu				11	
Add extra W.C.s prov. ...				1	
Add W.C.s for new houses				10	
Position 31/12/38		413	6	981	49
SCAMMONDEN.					
Nos. as at 31/12/37		72	22	2	
Nos. as at 31/12/38		72	22	2	
Total in district 31/12/38 ...	70	1094	526	4508	71

The total number of privies converted was 91, tub closets converted number 20, and waste water closets 4. In addition 42 water closets were provided for existing property and 71 for new houses built during the year. In the Marsden area under engagements made prior to the amalgamation three grants of £3 each were paid in the first quarter of the year. In April the Council decided to make the grant for conversion general throughout the district and allocated for this purpose 150 grants of £3 for use in the Financial Year. At the end of December 1938 124 grants had been paid for conversions completed. It will thus be seen that 157 water closets were provided for existing property during the year which, with the 71 for new houses, gives an increase of 228

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

COLLECTION OF REFUSE.

Transport.

The transport used in this service is partly mechanical and partly horse transport and now consists of 4 petrol vehicles and 1 horse and cart.

The horse "Captain" used by the Cleansing Department in the Golcar Area became lame and when examined by Mr. H. Cooper, Veterinary Surgeon, was found to have Ankilosis of the knee.

The horse was eventually sold on October 3rd at the Huddersfield Fair and the remaining horse at Marsden was then transferred to Golcar.

The cleansing work previously carried out by the Marsden horse has now been divided between the motor vehicles and a hired horse, which is employed 3 days per fortnight.

Re-organisation.

The re-organisation of the collection of dust bin refuse from a fortnightly to a weekly collection in all areas, and the adoption of the relay system in certain parts of the district to facilitate this improved service, having duly been carried out during 1937, attention was given during 1938 to the re-organisation of the collection of refuse from privies and ashpits. Total re-organisation in this respect has now been carried out so that the privies and ashpits in the Colne Valley Area are now emptied once every 3 weeks instead of periods varying from 3 to 7 weeks as before.

Sanitary Conveniences.

The number of privies and pail closets in the Colne Valley Area on December 31st, 1938, is as follows:—

1164 Privies.

526 Pail closets.

Pail Closets.

One motor vehicle is employed 2 days per week and a hired horse 1 day per week emptying the 504 pail closets in the Area as follows:—

Linthwaite 8

Slaithwaite 6

Marsden 309

Golcar 181

The contents of the pail closets are collected and passed through the various sewage works.

The 22 pail closets in Scammonden are emptied by private owners or occupiers.

Provision of Dust Bins.

During 1938, 720 new additional dust bins were provided as follows:—

Marsden 221

Linthwaite 162

Golcar 315

Slaithwaite 22

making the total number of dust bins collected weekly in the area 5,573.

In 56 cases of defective dust bins, notices were sent or owners interviewed re the provision of new bins and in all cases renewals were provided.

Shop Refuse.

The Council allow 1 bin per week of shop refuse from each premises to be collected free of charge and all additional bins are charged at the rate of 2d. per bin.

Receptacles Emptied During The Year.

The number of receptacles emptied during the year are as follows:—

Privies	15,986
Ashpits	9,194
Pail Closets	24,998
Dust Bins	270,849

321,027	total number of receptacles
	emptied during 1938.

The Council do not undertake the cleansing of cess-pools and the few that are in the area are emptied by the occupiers and the contents put on farm lands.

DISPOSAL.

The method of disposal of dry refuse and also refuse from privies and earth closets is partially by incineration at the Council's two disposal works and partially by the Controlled System of tipping at the three controlled tips of the Council.

Trade Refuse.

The charges for Trade Refuse are as follows:—

Disposal Works.

Shop Refuse 1/- per cart load.

2/- per motor load.

Manufacturers' Refuse 2/6 per cart load.

5/- per motor load.

Tips.

8d. per cart load and 1/- per motor load.

Materials from other departments to be credited to the Cleansing Department at the above rates.

Slaithwaite Disposal Works.

This plant which was erected by the New Destructor Co., Pershore, and put into operation on April 24th, 1929, has up to December 1937 dealt with 10,766 loads of refuse. It is now used for the incineration of dry refuse only.

The number of loads dealt with during the year is as follows:—

	Motor loads	Cart loads
Privy and Ashpit Refuse	28	—
Dustbin (Dry) Refuse	835	—
	<hr/>	
	863	
Refuse from Private Traders ...	8	242
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	871	242
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Total number of loads dealt with 1,113.

173 motor loads of clinker, dust, etc., have been carted from the destructor works to Rotcher Tip.

589 dust bins of offal from the public abbatoir have been dealt with in the carcase chamber at the disposal works during the year.

Marsden Disposal Works.

This plant was erected in 1915 by Messrs. Dawson and Mansfield and is used for the incineration of both dry refuse and refuse from privies and ashpits.

The total number of loads dealt with during the year is as follows:—

	Motor loads	Cart loads
Privy and Ashpit Refuse	237	323
Dustbin (Dry) Refuse	758	344
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	995	667
Refuse from Private Traders ...	7	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1002	667
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Total number of loads dealt with 1,669.

236 motor loads of clinker have been tipped on land adjoining the destructor works during the year.

522 bins of offal from private slaughterhouses have been dealt with in the carcase chamber at the disposal works during the year.

Tips.

All refuse taken to the tips is dealt with on the controlled system and is deposited in layers and properly covered up.

Scarwood Tip.

During the year a new road has been constructed by the Cleansing Department from the tip to Longcroft Street. This new road is now used by the cleansing vehicles very considerably and has effected a great saving in mileage.

Loads Dealt with at Various Tips.

The total number of loads dealt with at the various tips during the year is as follows:—

Rotcher Tip.	Motor loads	Cart loads
Refuse tipped at Rotcher by private traders	223	423
House refuse tipped at Rotcher during 1938	687	32
Ashes brought to tip from sewage works	159	4
Loads tipped by Highways Department ...	147	110
Loads tipped by Electricity Department ...	17	1
Clinker, Pots, Dust etc., from disposal works	170	
	<hr/> 1403	<hr/> 570
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Total number of loads tipped at Rotcher
from all sources 1,973.

Roydhouse Tip.	Motor loads	Cart loads
Refuse tipped at Roydhouse by private traders	20	179
House refuse tipped at Roydhouse during 1938	1149	1

Loads tipped by Highways Department ...	122	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1291	180
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Total number of loads tipped at Roydhouse
from all sources 1,471.

Scarwood Tip.

	Motor loads	Cart loads
Refuse tipped at Scarwood		
by private traders	217	365
House refuse tipped at Scarwood		
during 1938	1138	830
Loads tipped from Sewage Works	38	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1393	1195
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Total number of loads tipped at Scarwood
from all sources 2,588.

SUMMARY OF REFUSE DEALT WITH DURING 1938.

Disposal Works.

Summary of Refuse dealt with by incineration during 1938 is as follows:—

	Marsden Disposal Works	Slaithwaite Disposal Works	Total Loads
Privy and Ashpit Refuse	560	28	588
Dustbin (Dry) Refuse	1102	835	1937
Refuse from Private Traders ...	7	250	257
Total loads of Refuse dealt with by incineration during 1938 at the 2 disposal works 2,782.			

Offal from the Public and Private Slaughterhouses which has been dealt with in the carcase chambers of the 2 disposal works amounts to 1,111 Dust Bins.

Clinker &c. from the 2 disposal works during the year amounted to 409 motor loads.

Controlled Tips.

	Rotcher	Roydhouse	Scarwood	Total loads
House Refuse tipped during 1938	719	1150	1968	3837
Refuse tipped by Private Traders ...	646	199	582	1427
Loads of Clinker tipped from the Disposal Works	170	—	—	170
Loads tipped by the Sewage Works Dept.	163	—	38	201
Loads tipped by Highways Dept. ...	257	122	—	379
Loads tipped by Electric Dept.	18	—	—	18

Total number of loads from all sources tipped at the Council's Controlled Tips during 1938 6,032.

Salvage.

Though the two disposal plants are incineration and not salvage plants certain materials are salvaged such as scrap tins, aluminium, brass, scrap iron, glass containers, jars, bottles, scrap glass, &c., and waste newspapers.

The following are particulars of the salvaged materials which have been sold during the year :—

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Income		
					£	s.	d.
Scrap Tins	30	16	1	0	13	4	6
Scrap Iron	4	6	2	0	6	18	7
Aluminium		1	2	22	3	7	10
Brass		1	0	0		15	0
Zinc			2	0		2	6
Accumulators						6	7
Scrap Glass	2	14	2	0	2	7	8
Waste Paper	19	12	1	20	21	9	6
Glass Containers, Bottles, Jars, &c.						14	3 5
					<hr/> £62 15 7 <hr/>		

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

Nuisances.

The number of nuisances in hand at the end of 1937 was 58, and during the year under review 177 new nuisances were found and recorded, making a total of 235 for abatement. Of this number 197 have been abated, leaving 38 in hand at the end of the year. In dealing with the nuisances 534 visits of inspection have been made. An analysis of the nuisances shows that 92 were caused by defective sanitary conveniences, 58 by defective drainage, 7 by premises in such a state as to be a nuisance, 7 smoke nuisances, 5 in connection with Factories and Workshops, and 8 various causes. Statutory notices issued numbered 50, and of these 40 were complied with and in the remaining 10 cases the work required is in progress. Fifty-five informal notices were issued and 48 complied with. Wherever possible, owners are interviewed before even an informal notice is served, and in many cases no further action is required to obtain the desired result.

Factories.

The coming into operation of the Factories Act 1937 on the 1st July of this year has meant another revision of the Registers, and with a view to making these as accurate as possible, advantage has been taken of offers of collaboration with H.M. Inspector of Factories. The widening of the definition of factory has resulted in an increase of the premises registered in comparison with the previous year, and now includes even butchers premises where small powered units are employed to drive sausage machines. The registers now show 159 Factories with mechanical power and 38 without mechanical power. All the premises have been visited during the year and 5 instances of defective sanitary conveniences were found and remedied. Three remaining

privies were demolished at one mill and 4 waterclosets provided.

All the factories coming within the provisions of Section 34 were carefully inspected to see if they were provided with satisfactory means of escape in case of fire. In eleven cases it was found necessary to ask for additional means to be provided, and at six factories these requirements had been complied with at the end of the year. Certificates have been issued in respect of all factories found satisfactory or since rendered satisfactory.

Bakehouses.

The total number of bakehouses remains the same as last year, 21, of which 14 come under the classification of "power factories" and 7 "non power factories." Forty-two visits of inspection have been made, and on the whole the conditions are satisfactory. In two instances shortage of space causes rather congested and untidy conditions. Unsatisfactory conditions at the sanitary conveniences of one bakehouse, and a general need of greater cleanliness have been remedied. There are no underground bakehouses.

Smoke Abatement.

The Council have now secured the approval of the Ministry of Health to the adoption of a Byelaw under the Public Health Act 1936 limiting the emission of black smoke to 3 minutes in the half hour. This came into force on the 1st July, 1938. Forty-four observations of 30 minutes duration were made during the year and in 8 cases the 3 minute limit was exceeded. Cautions were issued in each case but in no case was statutory proceedings instituted. A number of factory chimneys are known to repeatedly exceed the limit of black smoke allowed, and only legal proceedings will induce these

offenders to effect an improvement. Since the adoption of the Byelaw however, the international situation has placed such additional work on the department that it has been impossible to find the time necessary in order to procure the evidence for legal action. The Council are members of the West Riding of Yorkshire Regional Smoke Abatement Committee and are represented on the Executive Committee.

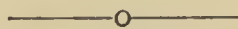
Swimming Baths and Pools.

The baths, owned by the Council, have not been in use during the year, on account of the dangerous state of the structure and the unsatisfactory water supply. Negotiations are still proceeding regarding new baths and it is hoped that a satisfactory result will be forthcoming, because the absence of a swimming bath is a loss to the community.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No house, Council or privately owned, was found to be infested, and the manner in dealing with any infested house is the same as was detailed in last year's report, when the Ministry asked for full particulars.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.



DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

Registered Cowkeepers.

The number of registered cowkeepers in the Colne Valley Area is 84 and 3 retailers who are not cowkeepers.

Accredited Producers.

4 accredited licences have been issued during the year, viz., Arthur Taylor, Bolster Moor, Golcar; W. H. Thornber, Mount Hebron Farm, Scapegoat Hill; Joe Smith, Lees Farm, Golcar; and Fred Wrigley, Height Lane Farm, Linthwaite.

There are now 8 accredited producers in the area, the other 4 being Crowther Garside, Westwood; W. and H. Garside, Inghead Farm, Slaithwaite; Mrs. W. Bamforth, Slacks Farm, Lingards, and Herbert Garside, Highfield Farm, Slaithwaite.

New Cowsheds.

Four new cowsheds have been made during the year, viz., one at Lowerwood Farm, Slaithwaite; one at Laund Farm, Slaithwaite; one at Wellhouse Fields Farm, Golcar, and one at Great Close Farm, Marsden.

Internal Re-construction.

Complete internal re-construction has been carried out at the following farm premises during the year:—Hey Knowl Farm, Linthwaite; Crimble Clough Farm, Slaithwaite

General Repairs and Alterations have been carried out to various other cowsheds in the area while a number are under notice for work to be commenced during the Spring.

New Dairies.

Six new dairies have been provided during the year at the following farms, viz., Bolster Moor Farm (A. Taylor); Crimble Clough Farm, Slaithwaite (E. Varley); Wellhouse Fields Farm (J. W. Cocks); Lees Farm, Golcar (J. Smith); Mount Hebron Farm, Scapegoat Hill (W. H. Thornber), and Height Lane Farm, Linthwaite (Fred Wrigley).

Application for Registration.

The following persons have been registered during the year as Cowkeepers and Retail Purveyors of Milk, viz., Mrs. Mary E. Fielding, Broad Lea Farm, Scammonden; Mrs. Norah Bamforth, Hey Knowl Farm, Linthwaite; and the following person as a Retail Purveyor only: Patrick Diskin, Chain Road, Marsden.

Removal from Register.

The following persons have ceased to be cowkeepers and have been removed from the register: Samuel Fielding, Broad Lea Farm, Scammonden; Willie Bamforth, Laund Farm, Slaithwaite.

Veterinary Inspection.

The veterinary inspection of cattle has now been taken over by the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry's Inspector has visited 79 farms, 113 cowsheds, and examined 620 milk cattle during the year.

The general cleanliness of both cattle and premises and the health of the cattle were found to be good.

Application to sell Pasteurised Milk.

Application for a renewal of their license to sell Pasteurised milk in the Colne Valley Urban District has been granted to the Huddersfield Industrial Society.

SLAUGHTERHOUSE AND MEAT SUPPLY.

There are 11 private slaughterhouses in the district and one public slaughterhouse.

Four of these are unsuitable premises and the slaughtering should be transferred to a public slaughterhouse. Unfortunately the public slaughterhouse is incapable of accommodating any more slaughtering.

The accommodation at the public slaughterhouse is now insufficient for the number of meat traders who already slaughter on these premises. There is an insufficient number of slaughtering bays, the hanging room is used to its utmost capacity and there is a total inadequacy of lairage for sheep and pigs.

These premises require considerable extension to deal with the present requirements and also to accommodate meat traders from the unsatisfactory buildings. A much more modern structure will be required if all the private slaughterhouses are to be closed.

Disposal of Offal.

One private slaughterhouse disposes of the offal on to land, while in the case of the remaining 10 private slaughterhouses and the public slaughterhouse the offal is disposed of in the carcase chambers at the two disposal works.

INSPECTION OF MEAT.

Animals Killed.

The number of the various classes of animals slaughtered during the year is as follows:—

	Beasts	Calves	Pigs	Sheep	Total
Private Slaughterhouses	862	5	751	1966	3584
Public Slaughterhouse	937	8	1054	2543	4542
					<hr/> 8126 <hr/>

Meat Condemned.

During the year the following amount of meat was condemned as unfit for food and disposed of in the carcase chambers of the 2 destructor works.

	Beef	Mutton	Pork	Total
Public Slaughterhouse	3342	120	995	4457 lbs.
Private Slaughterhouses	2762	309	885	3956 lbs.

making a total of 8,413 lbs. of meat condemned as unfit for food, during the year.

It is pleasing to report that the meat traders in the Colne Valley Area spare no effort to procure and maintain a high standard of meat for the district.

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	1799	—	13	4509	1805
Number inspected	1799	—	13	4509	1805
All diseases except Tuberculosis :					
Whole carcasses con- demned	—	—	—	5	5
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	30	—	—	9	9
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	1.66	—	—	.31	.77
Tuberculosis only :					
Whole carcasses con- demned	3	—	—	—	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	85	—	—	—	69
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	4.89	—	—	—	3.98

Other Foods.

As I have remarked before, a good supply of all kinds of foods is available in shops in the district, the shops observing the regulations regarding cleanliness and the quality of the food being up to standard.

H O U S I N G .

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

During the year 375 houses were inspected under the Housing Act or Public Health Act. Under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 121 houses were inspected and recorded, and of this number 115 required further action. 24 houses were found to be in a state as to be unfit for human habitation, and 91 houses were found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. Under the Public Health Acts, 268 houses were inspected for defects, and 254 houses were rendered fit after the service of notices. All the repairs were carried out by the owners, the local authority not being called upon to carry out any repairs. During the year 309 dwelling houses were rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Officers of the Council.

Reconditioning of Houses.

Under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936, notices were served requiring repairs in 55 houses and of this number 45 houses were rendered fit by the owners.

Demolition Orders.

Demolition Orders were made in respect of 2 houses, viz., 421, Manchester Road, and 12, Pike Law, Golcar.

The following houses were demolished:—28, 30, Scarr Hall; 3, Commercial Street; 14, 15, 16, 24, Clough Lea, Marsden; 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, Kitchen Fold; 7, 9, 11, 13, Park Lane, Golcar; Warehouse Hill, Marsden 2; 11, 13, Brougham Road, Marsden, a total of 22 houses.

Closing Orders.

Closing Orders were made in respect of the following houses:—1, 3, Oliver Lane, Marsden; 1061, 936, 1057,

938, 940, 1059, Manchester Road; 1, 3, 5, 7, Kitchen Fold, Linthwaite; 60, 57, 59, 61, 63, Brook Lane, Golcar; 430, Leymoor Road, Golcar; 2, Bridge End, Marsden; 1, 2, Waterside; 1, 2, Fields Head; 1, Spa Grounds; a total of 24 houses.

25 Representations were made in respect of dwelling houses unfit for habitation.

Clearance Areas.

During the year the following list of houses were declared to be Clearance Areas, following an Inquiry held by an Inspector from the Ministry of Health.

20, 22, Town Gate, Marsden	2 houses	6 occupants
24, 28, 30, Oliver Lane, Marsden	3 „	6 „
21, 23, 25, Church Street, Golcar	3 „	7 „
58, 62, 64, 66, 68, James Street, Golcar	5 „	15 „
30, 32, 34, 36, 38, Ramsden Mill Lane, Linthwaite	5 „	12 „
24, 26, 28, 30, 32, Roydhouse, Linthwaite	5 „	12 „
9, 10, 11, 12, Blackmoorfoot	4 „	13 „
15, 17, Linthwaite Hall, Linthwaite	2 „	1 „
	<hr/> 29	<hr/> 72

The Council is engaged upon the erection of new houses to accommodate the tenants, and provision is being made for aged persons by the erection of bungalows.

Erection of New Houses by the Council.

During the year the Council has completed the erection of 12 houses at Fields Head Estate, Linthwaite. The houses have been occupied by the displaced tenants from the Swan Buildings, Crimble, Clearance Area, and from individual unfit houses.

In addition the Council has in course of erection the following houses:—

8 houses, Woods Avenue Estate, Marsden, 2 bedroom type.

6 bungalows, Woods Avenue Estate, Marsden.

8 houses, Marina Terrace, Leymoor, Golcar, 2 bedroom type.

4 bungalows, Leymoor Road, Golcar.

A scheme is in preparation for the erection of 20 houses at Thornes Terrace, Slaithwaite, and it is proposed to provide an additional 6 houses at Fields Head Estate, Linthwaite. With the completion of the above houses it will then be possible to re-house the displaced tenants from the areas scheduled as Clearance Areas, and provide for tenants in houses which have been dealt with under Closing Orders.

New Houses.

During the year 71 new houses have been erected in the area by the Council and private builders. They are distributed in the area as follows:—

Golcar 25, Linthwaite 23, Marsden 13, Slaithwaite 10.

A steady addition to the Housing needs of the area is being made by this private enterprise.

Overcrowding.

There is a reduction in the number of overcrowded houses, which is now 30 with 243 persons as inmates. The present position is: Golcar 16, Linthwaite 7, Slaithwaite 4, Marsden 3. Much of the overcrowding has been relieved by the exchange of houses—tenants moving into large houses—and there is evidence this trouble will be solved by this method. The Council has assisted by placing tenants of overcrowded houses into houses owned by the Council.

No additional cases of overcrowding have been found during the year.

1—Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year.

(1)	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	375
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	816
(2)	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	121
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	167
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses needing further action	115
	(a) Number considered to in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	24
	(b) Number (excluding those in sub-head (3) (a) above) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	91

NOTE.—Totals of (3) (a) and (b) should equal the figure given for (3).

2—Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	309
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3—Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

A.	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16, Housing Act, 1936.	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	55
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	45

(a) By owners	45
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	268
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	254
(a) By owners	254
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—
C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1) Number of representations, etc., made in respect of dwelling-houses unfit for habitation	25
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	2
(3) Number of dwelling-houses Demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	21
D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	24
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms, the Closing Orders in respect of which were determined, the tenement or room having been ren- dered fit	—

4—Unhealthy Areas.

Have any areas been declared Clearance Areas during the year 1938? If so, please give full particulars as to such, including situation, number of houses, population, and action taken relative thereto.

The following areas declared Clearance Areas after Inquiry held by an Inspector of the Ministry of Health:

20, 22, Town Gate, Marsden	2 houses	6 occupants
24, 28, 30, Oliver Lane, Marsden	3 „	6 „
21, 23, 25, Church Street, Golcar	3 „	7 „
58, 62, 64, 66, 68, James Street, Golcar	5 „	15 „
30, 32, 34, 36, 38, Ramsden Mill Lane, Linthwaite	5 „	12 „
24, 26, 28, 30, 32, Roydhouse, Linthwaite	5 „	12 „
9, 10, 11, 12, Blackmoorfoot, Linthwaite	4 „	13 „
15, 17, Linthwaite Hall, Linthwaite	2 „	1 „
		<hr/> 72 <hr/>

The Council are erecting a sufficient number of houses in the area to provide accommodation for the displaced tenants.

5—Number of new houses erected during 1938.

(a) By the Local Authority	12
(b) By private enterprise	59
Total	71

6—Housing Conditions.

Total number of houses in the District 7,567
No. of working-class houses included in the above 7,297

The general condition of houses in the area may be called satisfactory. Overcrowding is being reduced by exchange of houses. There is still a shortage of houses in each district.

The provision of new houses by private enterprise is steady in the whole of the area. The Council are erecting new houses in each part of the area and preparing schemes for additional houses.

At present the Council are erecting 52 houses dis-

tributed over the several parts of the area. At an early date further proposals will be laid before the Council.

7—Town Planning.

A Town Planning Scheme is now being prepared.

8—Official.

Name and address of Officer designated to make inspections under the Housing Consolidated Regulations: Harold Morgan, Public Health Department, Council Offices, Linthwaite.

9—Tuberculous Families.

No new houses have been erected for tuberculosis families but assistance is given to families by providing more suitable accommodation when this is possible.

10—Overcrowding.

(a)	(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	30
	(2) Number of families dwelling therein	30
	(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	243
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	Nil
(c)	(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	17
	(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	76

Exchanges in tenancy have assisted in reducing the overcrowding. The Council has not decided to erect houses solely to deal with overcrowding.

